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Applicant(s)

HARRIS, Larris et al

TC 1700

Filing Date

May 9, 2001

Title:

Process for Applying Microcapsules to Textile Materials and Products Formed by the Process

Examiner ·

Todd J. Kilkenny

Group Art Unit

1733

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Carol McCabe (signature)

Date Mailed: October 14, 2003

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TRANSMITTAL			Application Number 09/852,313						
			Filin	g Date	ay 9, 2001				
FORM				Named Inventor	La	rris Harris et al.	REC	FIV	
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Total Number of Pages in This Submission 4			Art L	Init	17				
			Examiner Name			Todd J. Kilkenny			
			Attorney Docket Number			41872-249694 TC 17 0			
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Fee Transmittal Form		Assignment Papers (for an Application)			After Allowance Communication to Group				
Fee Attached		☐ Drawing(s)				Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences			
Amendment / Response		Licensing-related Papers				Appeal Communication to Group			
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Affidavits/declaration(s)		Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application			1_	Status Letter			
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Firm or Individual name	J. Michael Boggs			TITT, ATTORNET,	OK AGE	<u> </u>			
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EV 316 331 670 US 31/3

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Larry Harris et al.

Serial No.

09/852,313

Filing Date

May 9, 2001

Title

Process for Applying Microcapsules to Textile Materials and

Products Formed by the Process

Examiner

Todd J. Kilkenny

Group Art Unit

1733

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 RECEIVED 0CT 2 0 2003 TC 1700

Dear Sir:

ELECTION

This Election is being filed in response to the Official Action mailed September 16, 2003, in the above-identified application.

I. <u>Election of Group of Claims</u>

In the Official Action, the examiner restricts prosecution to one of two (2) groups of claims.

Applicant hereby elects Group II, which includes claims 44-67, with traverse.

The Official Action states that the final product as claimed does not require the process steps as recited and can be made by another and materially different process such as a process that doesn't require a treatment bath, but rather spray coats the microcapsules onto the textile material, or, alternatively, that the final product can be made by another and materially different process such as a process that doesn't require dispersing the microcapsules with a dispersant, but

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rather applies the microcapsules as solid particles directly to the textile without a dispersant. (Official Action, para. 2.)

Claim 44, and claims 45-51 dependent therefrom, of the present invention claim a textile material having microcapsules applied thereto, the microcapsules applied to the textile material by placing the textile material in a treatment bath, contacting the textile material with the microcapsules, dispersing the microcapsules around and through the textile material with a dispersant, and adhering the dispersed microcapsules to the textile material with a binder. Claim 52, and claims 53-59 dependent therefrom, of the present invention claim a textile material having microcapsules applied thereto, the microcapsules applied to the textile material according to the process of claim 30, including placing the textile material in a treatment bath, physically dispersing the microcapsules in the bath to contact the textile material with the microcapsules, dispersing the microcapsules around and through the textile material with a silicone-based dispersant, and adding a binder to the bath to adhere the dispersed microcapsules to the textile material. Claim 60, and claims 61-67 dependent therefrom, of the present invention claim a textile material having microcapsules applied thereto, the microcapsules applied to the textile material according to the process of claim 37, including placing the textile material in a treatment bath, stirring the bath for three minutes to physically disperse the microcapsules and contact the textile material with the microcapsules, dispersing the microcapsules around and through the textile material with a dispersant, and adding an acrylic binder having a cationic charge to adhere the dispersed microcapsules to the textile material. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the product as claimed in these claims cannot be made by a process that

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is materially different than the processes claimed in claims 30 and 37, which are part of Group I.

Thus, a search encompassing claims in each group would not be unduly burdensome. Therefore,

Applicant respectfully requests that the restriction requirement be withdrawn.

II. <u>Election of Species</u>

In the Official Action, the examiner restricts prosecution to a single disclosed species.

Applicant hereby elects Species A1, wherein the microcapsule contains a moisturizing

agent. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 47, 49, 55, 57, 63, and 65 are readable upon

the elected species. This species election is made with traverse.

As stated in the Official Action, claims 44-46, 52-54, and 60-62 are currently generic.

Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are allowable, that each of the species A₁

(moisturizing agent), A2 (fragrance), and A3 (vitamin) are subsumed within these generic claims,

that a search encompassing claims in each of these species would not be unduly burdensome, and

that all of these claims should be prosecuted together. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests

that the restriction requirement related to species be withdrawn.

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The Office is respectfully invited to contact J. Michael Boggs at (336) 747-7536, to discuss any matter relating to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10/14/03

J. Michael Boggs Reg. No. 46,563

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP 1001 West Fourth Street Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101-2400 (336) 747-7536 (Phone) (336) 734-2632 (Facsimile)

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